



FRANK CASTLE was once a decorated Marine officer, an upstanding citizen and family man. Then his family was violently taken from him when they were accidentally killed in a mob hit. From that day on, Frank Castle shed his old identity and became a force of cold, calculated retribution and vigilantism known as...

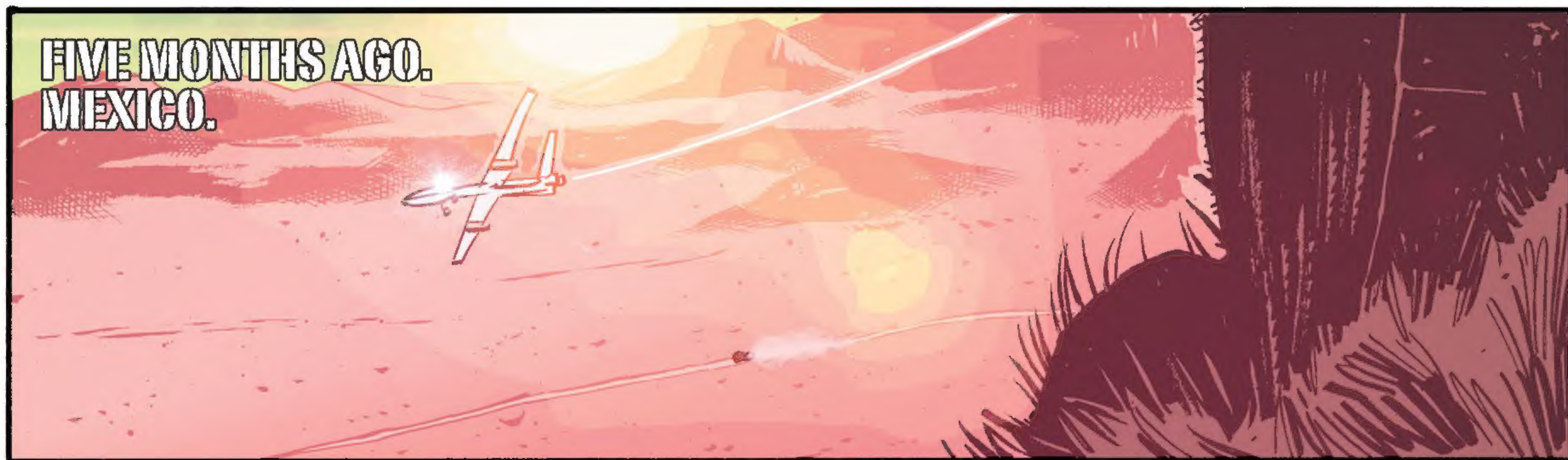
— THE PUNISHER —

PREVIOUSLY

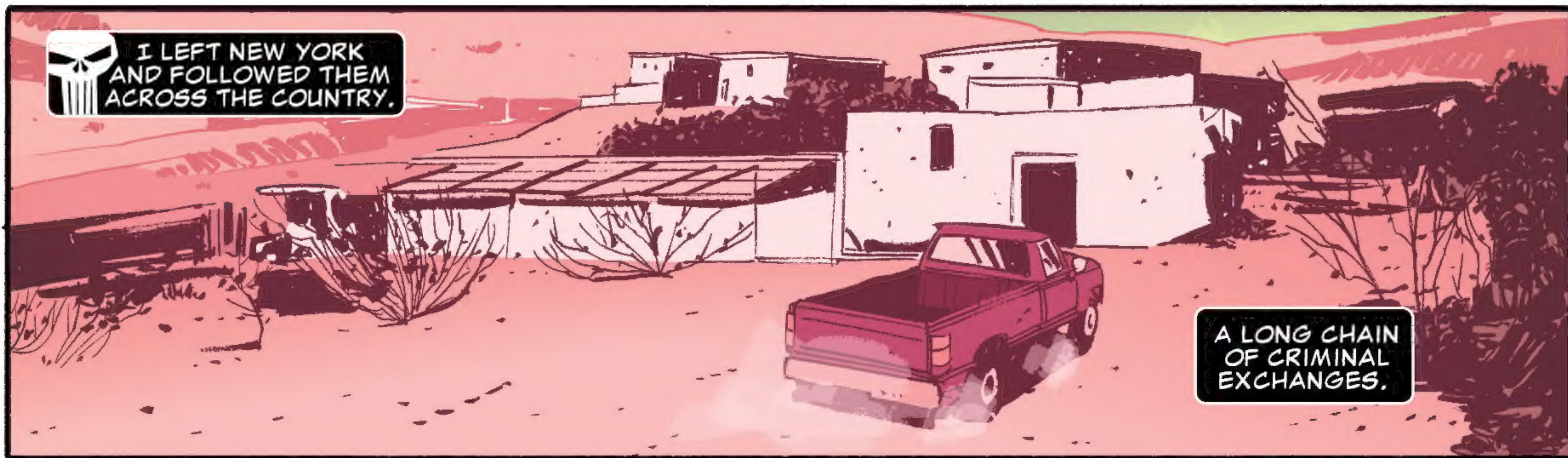
A trail of drugs, corruption and terror perpetrated by the Dos Soles gang has led Frank Castle away from his New York City home and landed him in Los Angeles. With the help of a military contact named Tuggs, Frank's war on crime has hit the West Coast. But as Frank tries to unearth the Dos Soles' plans, the hunter is being hunted himself. An elite military strike force, the new HOWLING COMMANDOS, have Frank in their sights, and they're closing in...



FIVE MONTHS AGO.
MEXICO.



I LEFT NEW YORK
AND FOLLOWED THEM
ACROSS THE COUNTRY.



A LONG CHAIN
OF CRIMINAL
EXCHANGES.

OVER THE U.S.
BORDER, PAST THE
REACH OF THE D.E.A.

I HUNTED THE CARTEL
THAT IS BREEDING
DEATH IN THE STREETS
OF MY CITY. THEY'RE
HIDDEN IN THIS TOWN.



AND I
WILL MAKE
THEM PAY.

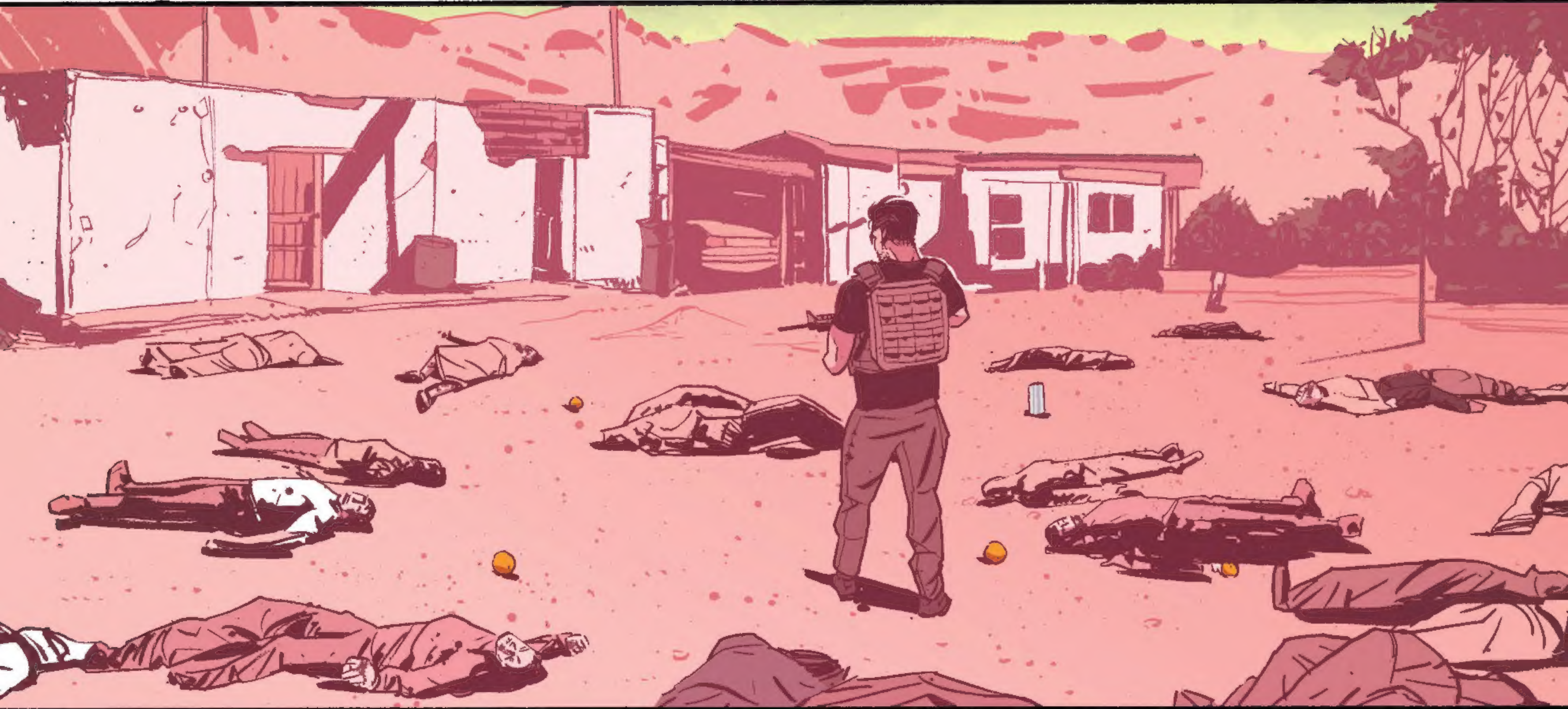


UNLESS...





SOMEONE ELSE
ALREADY HAS.



SOMEONE IS
JEALOUS OF THE
COMPETITION,
PERHAPS.



SOMEONE
VILE AND
VICIOUS.



AND VERY
WELL ARMED.



**TODAY.
OUTSIDE LOS ANGELES.**

THEY'RE
LATE.

THEY'RE
CAUTIOUS.

I HATE
DEALING WITH
THESE GUYS,
BOSS. GIVE ME
THE CREEPS.

WE NEED
THE WEAPON
TO WIN THE
WAR.

200M X 50%

OKAY,
EVERYONE
READY. HERE
THEY COME.

KEEP
YOUR GUNS
AWAY. WE DON'T
WANT TO THREATEN
THESE GUYS.

200M X 40%

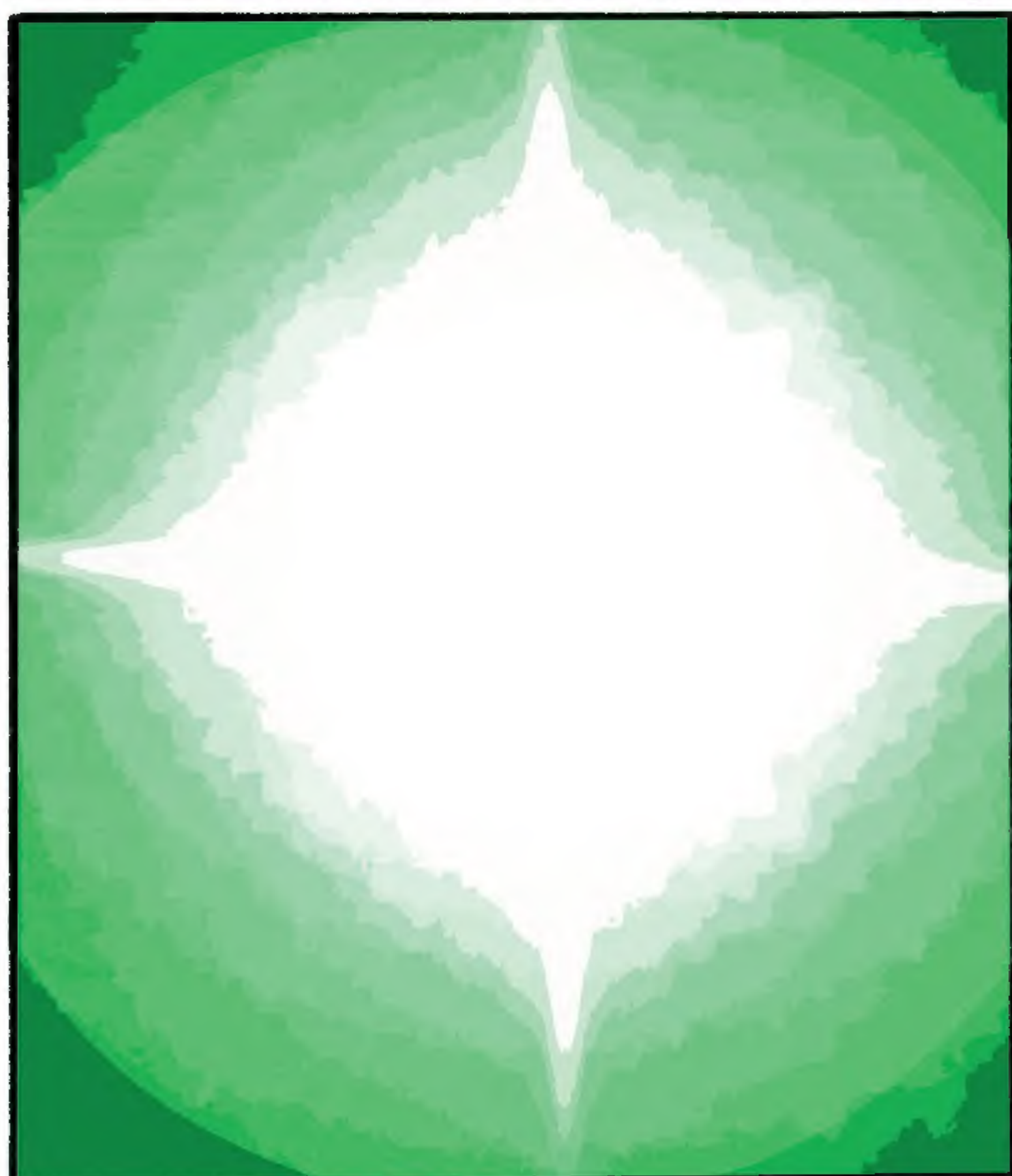
YOU HAVE
THE MONEY,
SEÑOR
DEL SOL?

IF YOU
HAVE THE
WEAPON.

WE
HAVE
IT.

BUT
WE WANT
SOMETHING
IN RETURN.

WE'RE
ALREADY
PAYING YOU.
THAT IS WHAT
YOU GET IN--





COYOTE

NATHAN EDMONDSON
WRITER

MITCH GERADS
ARTIST

VC'S CORY PETIT
LETTERER

MITCH GERADS
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DAN BUCKLEY
PUBLISHER

ALAN FINE
EXEC. PRODUCER

IT'S
JUST
YOU AND
ME.

AND A
WEAPON
HEADED FOR LOS
ANGELES.









NO,
FRANK.
NO. THIS
IS--

WAIT--
IS THAT A
COYOTE?



HE'S A
SWEETHEART.

JUST DON'T
LOOK STRAIGHT
INTO HIS EYES.
HE DOESN'T
LIKE THAT.

I DON'T
THINK--
NO, FRANK,
I CAN'T TAKE
HOME A WILD
ANIMAL.



HE'S
INJURED
AND HE'S GOT
NOWHERE
ELSE TO GO,
TUGGS.

WAIT,
WHERE ARE
YOU GOING?

TO WORK.
NEED TO
FOLLOW UP
ON THE
WEAPON.



OH--I
NAMED HIM
LOOT.

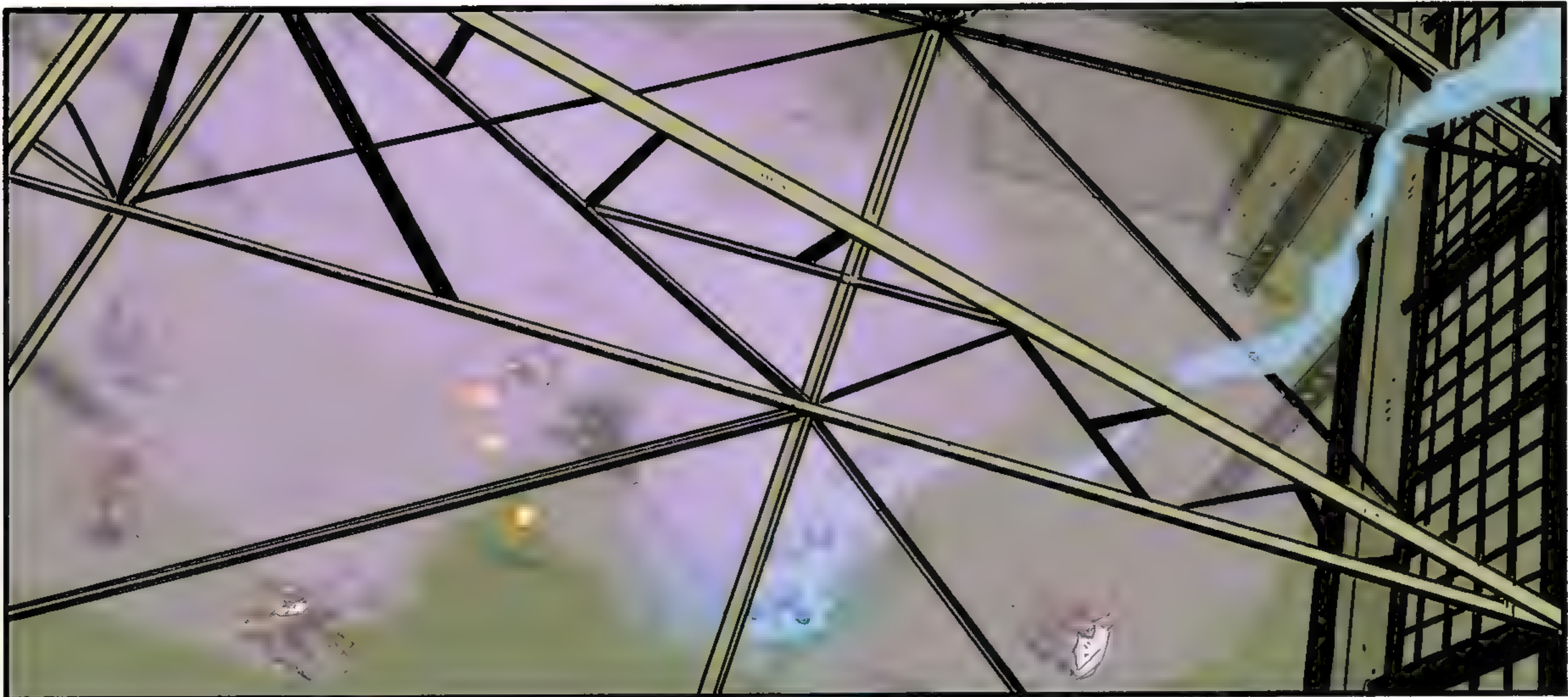
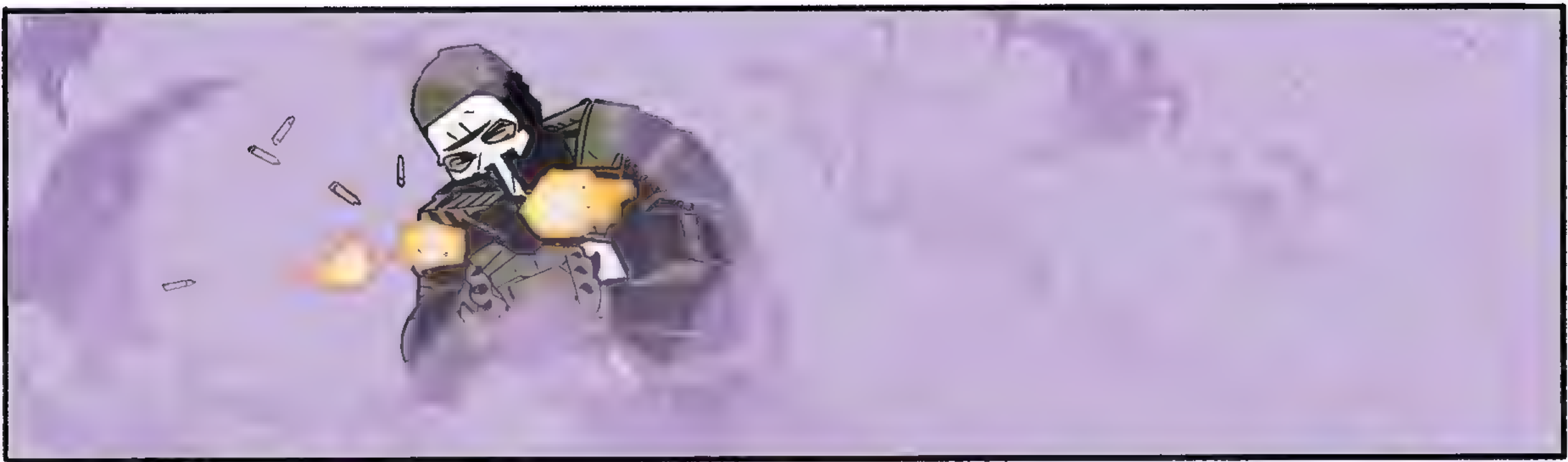
SHORT FOR
LIEUTENANT.

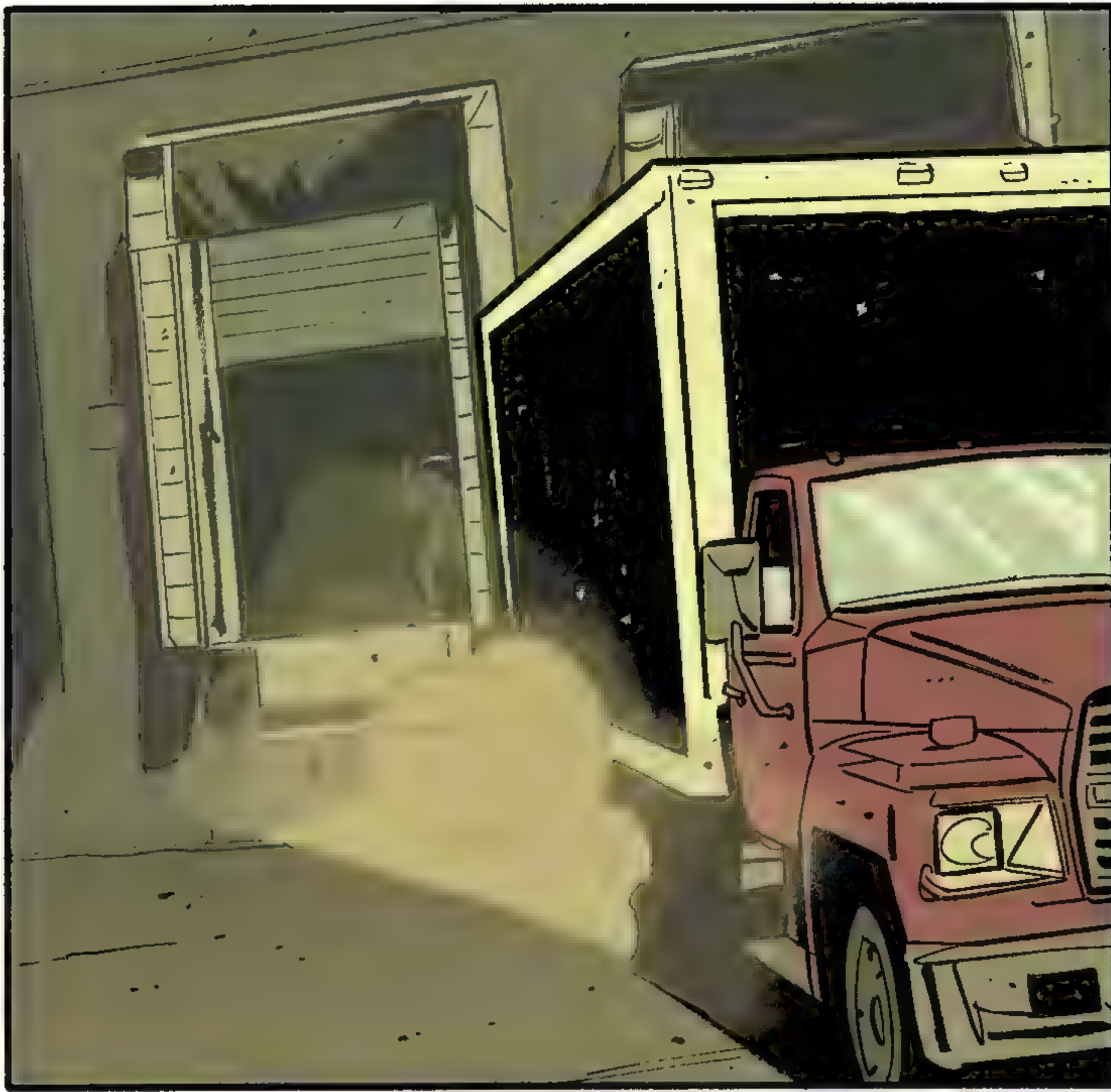


LOOT?

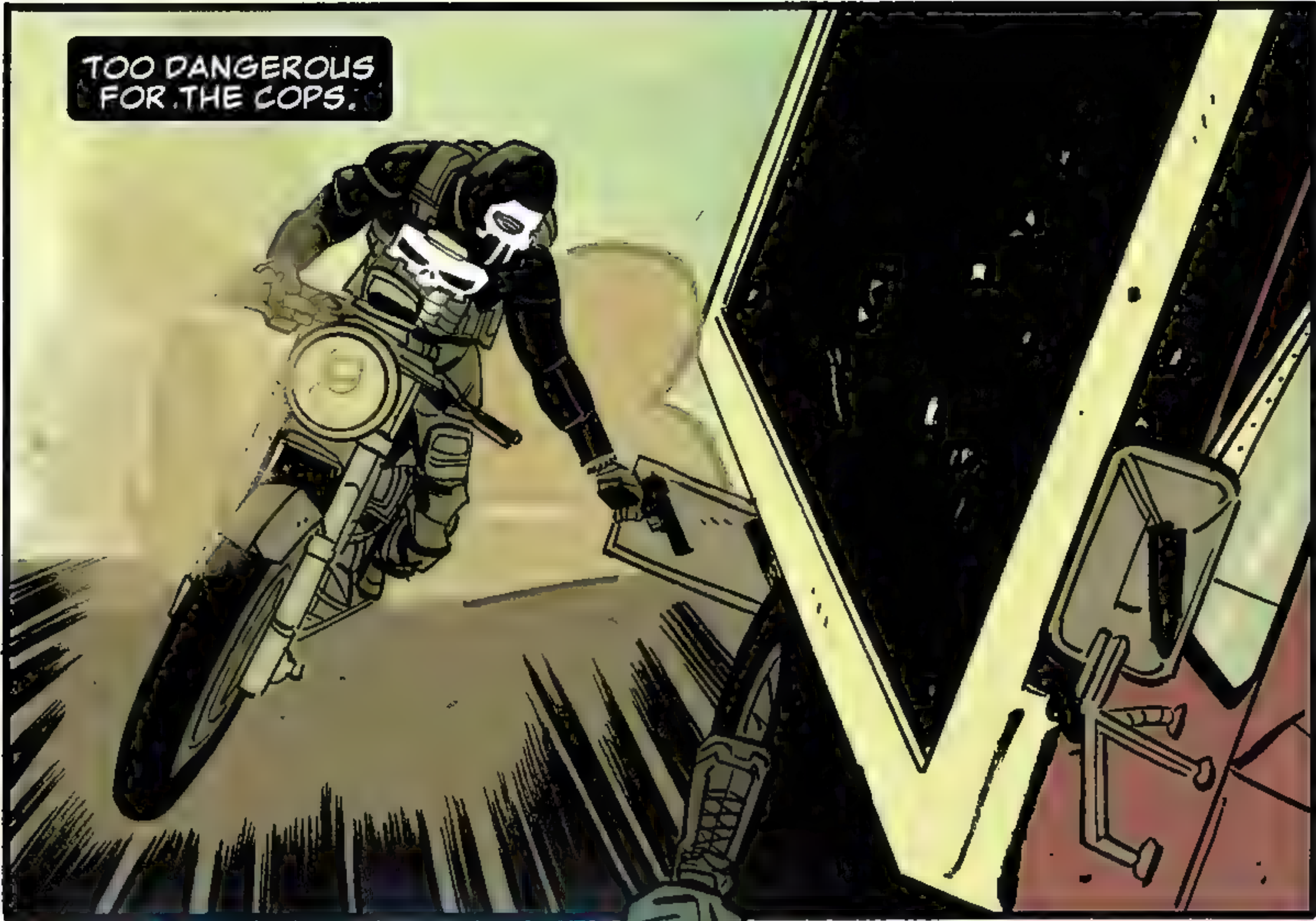
ARE
YOU A, UH,
BITER?







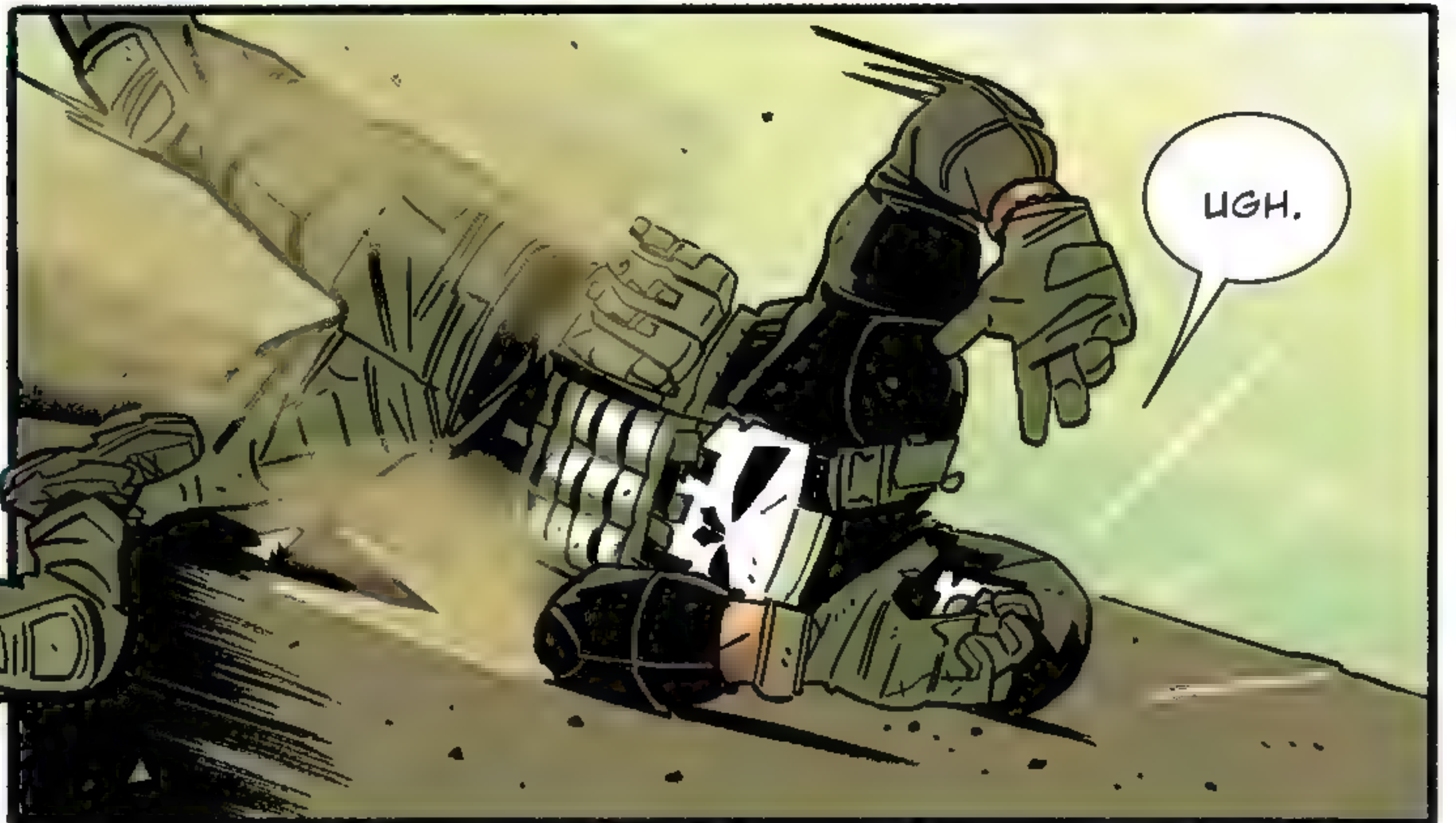




TOO DANGEROUS
FOR THE COPS.



NOT BIG
ENOUGH FOR THE
SUPER HEROES.



UGH.



WHAT
IN THE
HELL.



BUT A PROPER
FIGHT FOR ME.



WHAT DO YOU THINK HAPPENED?

I HAVE NO IDEA. THE DOS SOLES HAVE SOME KIND OF NEW WEAPON.

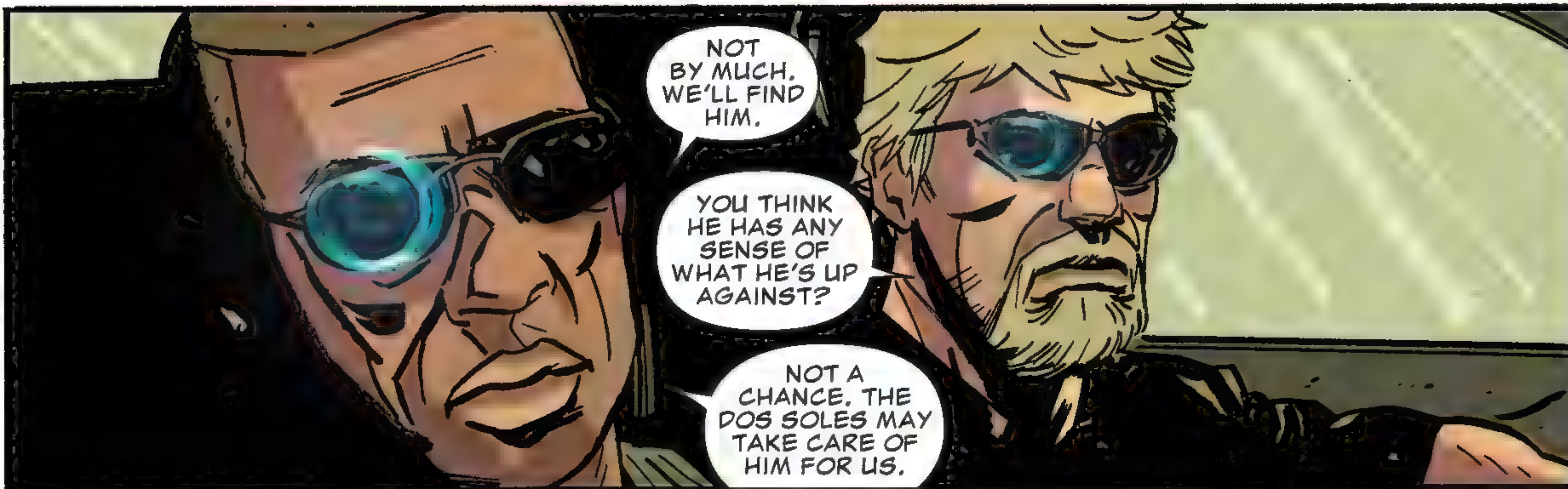


WE DIDN'T STAND A CHANCE.

NOT UNTIL HE SHOWED UP.



WE MISSED HIM, SIDEWINDER.



NOT BY MUCH. WE'LL FIND HIM.

YOU THINK HE HAS ANY SENSE OF WHAT HE'S UP AGAINST?

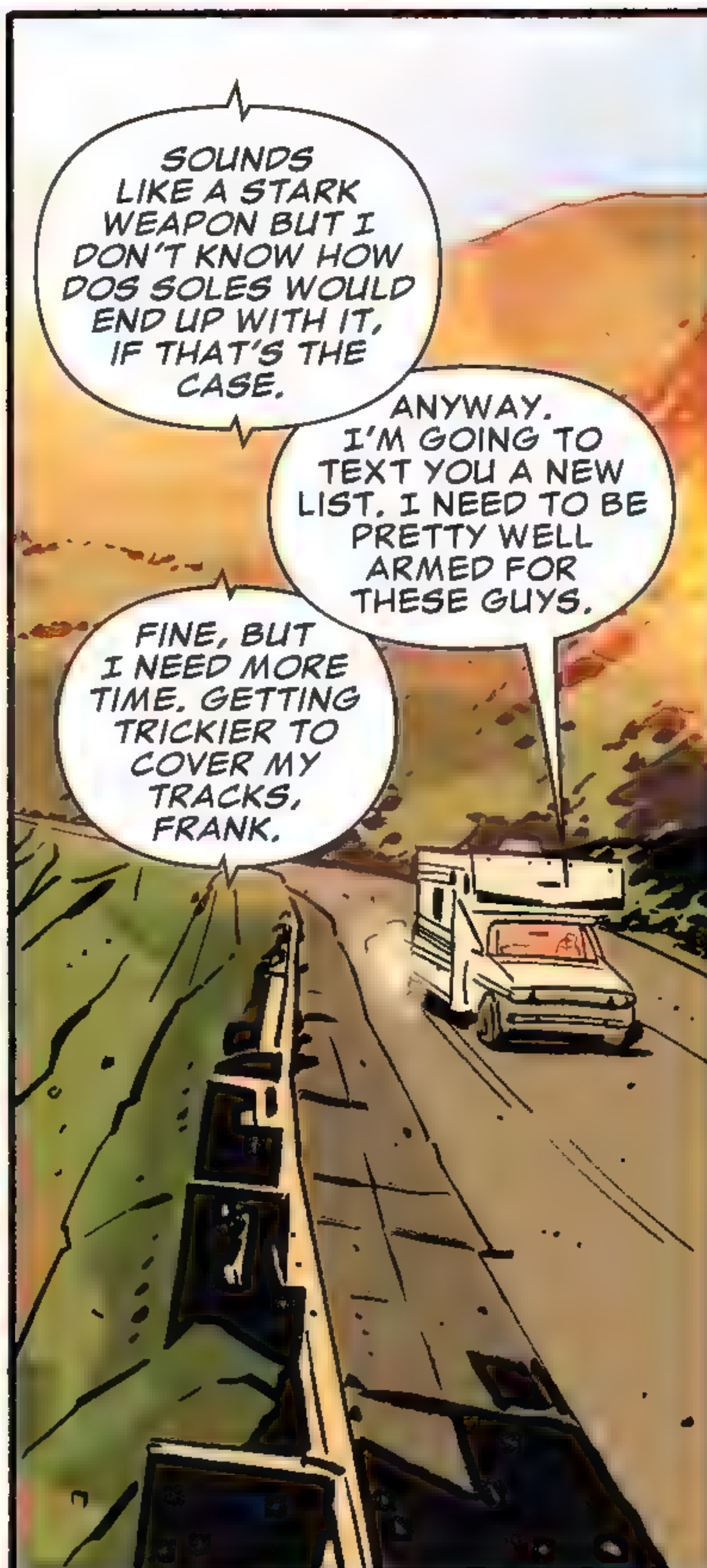
NOT A CHANCE. THE DOS SOLES MAY TAKE CARE OF HIM FOR US.

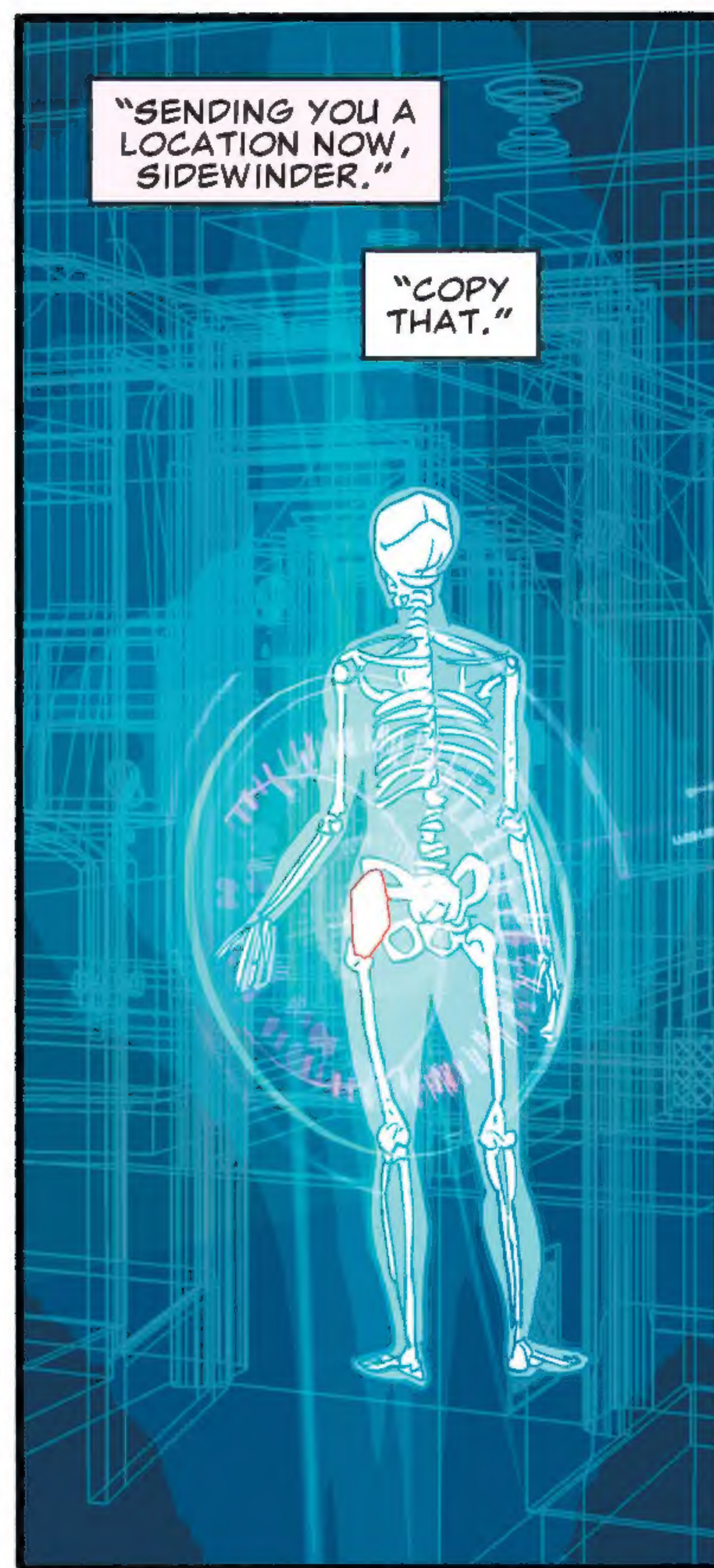
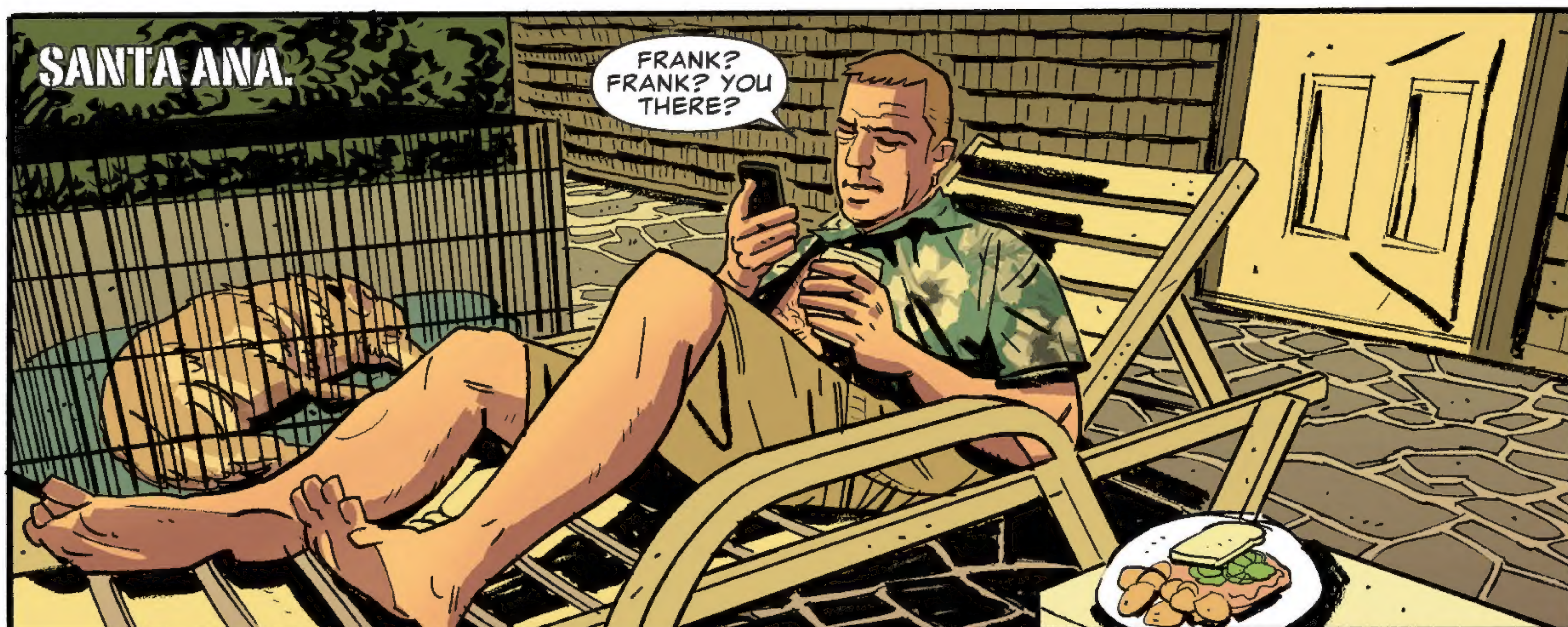


WE SHOULD BE SO LUCKY.

THE HOWLING COMMANDOS DON'T OUTSOURCE TO DRUG CARTELS, MYERS.

PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY,
NORTH OF SANTA MONICA.





"WHEN THE LAW
DOESN'T WORK,
WORK THE LAW."

THERE WAS A TIME IN
NEW YORK WHEN I READ
A STACK OF BOOKS
TO TRY TO JUSTIFY
WHAT I WAS DOING.

FULL OF
QUOTES, BUT
USELESS.



BOOM



THE LAW. IT CHANGED
WHEN THE HEROES MET
THE VILLAINS IN THE
SKY AND THE CRIMINALS
PARTIED IN THE
NEW YORK STREETS.

LOS ANGELES IS A DIFFERENT
BEAST. WITH A DIFFERENT
SET OF PROBLEMS.
A DIFFERENT DISEASE.



BOOM

THE CRIMINALS
MEAN TO TAKE
THE CITY OVER.



THE COPS HAVE
A BADGE AND A
.40, BUT THE
DOS SOLES HAVE
SOME OTHER
KIND OF WEAPON.



SOMETHING
NEW?



...OR AN
OLD ENEMY.

ELECTRO.



P-THE PUNISHER

WRITING ON THE CASTLE WALLS

WHOA! Electro?!?!? SHOCKING! GET EXCITED!

Welcome back! I really wanted to have a letters column here, but since this issue is going to the printer a mere two weeks after the first one we weren't going to have time to get actual letters in. So I had our mighty Marvel media mavens reach out to Twitter and ask our readers what they wanted to see in this Punisher series. I wonder how we fared? TO THE INTERNETS!

Austen

Punisher and the War Machine armor go together like lamb and tuna fish.

Do...do lamb and tuna fish go together? I honestly don't know. L.A. has a big foodie scene, maybe that's some kind of new approach to Surf 'n' Turf? Regardless, no plan to put Punisher in the War Machine armor as of yet. Frank's got plenty in the armory already.

Brock

I want the punisher to team up with venom.

We actually do have some plans to have Frank crossing paths with some of the Marvel U's military-connected characters, but no plans for Flash Thompson or the symbiote yet. However, Frank is on the same team with Venom over on Charles Soule's awesome THUNDERBOLTS at the moment, so if you're hungry for Frank 'N' Flash Funtimes (that's how you'd describe the book, right, Jordan?), check out Thunderbolts!

Devi

I hope Punisher gets an awesome supporting cast.

andrew wilda

I'd like to see more supporting cast and stories like the first story arc from the original war zone run

Devi and Andrew, hope you're digging Lou, Sam, Tuggs, our new Howling Commandos, and, of course, Loot! Giving Frank some people to bounce off, and also come up hard against, was one of our big goals with this book, glad to hear it's something you were wanting, too!

H.A.B.

How about a story arc where he learns that during the time he spent in Hawaii he unknowingly had an illegitimate child.

Frank's adopted a coyote. That's like having a kid, right? Hold on. I'm being told

that's nothing like having a kid. Sorry, H.A.B.

Troy

I want to see Punisher use an old antique gun of some kind. Like a blunderbuss.

You know what happens when you use a blunderbuss. Eventually your older self from the future comes back and there's a terrible reckoning. (LOOPER fans whatwhat!) But honestly, I like the way you think, Troy. Punisher: Back to the Classics! My vote for antique Punisher weapon: Trebuchet!

Mike Shelton

Guns, blood, and pre-Punisher Frank Castle stories.

Hopefully we've already given you some quality samplings of the first two. We don't explicitly have any Pre-Punisher plans, but Nathan and Mitch are VERY invested in Frank's military past and training, so I wouldn't count it out!

Jiximi

I just hope there's gonna be moments where I'm like: OMG SO MUCH "BADASSNESS" I CANT HANDLE.

How've we done, Jiximi? CAN YOU HANDLE IT???

M. Dinh Nimby

Frank interact w/ Superior SM to take down super-powered villains. Dynamics btw Frank and Otto would be incredible!

I don't know why, but The Odd Couple theme song suddenly got stuck in my head...

Wilfredo

I really want to see Frank blow a lot of stuff up! :)

HECK YEAH, ME TOO!!!

TJ Czar

I'd like to see Frank's softer side explored. What's his favorite sheet thread count?

Nathan assures me Frank sleeps on only the finest Gore-Tex.

Tyler Jones

I've been to LA a couple times Frank should go to the same spots I do (Legoland, Disney, Universal, LAX) and do his thing.

Look out for our very special cover for issue #7 of Frank riding the Teacups.

2ComicNerds

We hope to see Frank continue his war on crime and for Mr. Edmondson to write a dark and compelling series for him.

Check and check, you couple of nerds!

Siphen.O

I want to see Frank continue to do what he does best without worrying about the world's opinion of him.

I asked Nathan what his opinion was of this Tweet and he punched me square in the face and said "Like I care" and then drove his car over my foot. As goes Nathan, so goes Frank, so I think you're all set, Siphen.O.

Michael Hicks

Good old-fashioned militaristic vigilantism! Loved what recent writers did, but am ready for a more grounded story.

Nathan and Mitch are all about Frank keeping it real, so hopefully you're feeling well taken care of!

Steven Oz

Jaw-dropping action and weapons.

How's the jaw, Steven?

Sounds like we've got a pretty excited bunch of Frank-ophiles out there! Let us know what you think of our voracious vigilante and his new crime-busting crusade by writing to us at MHEROES@MARVEL.COM. Remember to mark your email OK TO PRINT!

Until then!

-Jake T.

NEXT:

